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135

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Chemnitz

25X1C

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 August 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 7 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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SOURCE

25X1C 1. July 1951 from Chemnitz (N 51/K 66)

Date

24 July

Location

Remarks

Nachrichten Ka-
serne, Chemnitz-
EbersdorfDriven by soldiers with red-
bordered black epaulets;
the trucks were emptyNachrichten Ka-
serne, Chemnitz-
EbersdorfEach carrying 4 to 5 soldiers
with red-bordered black epaulets
and furnitureArtillerie Kaser-
ne, Chemnitz-
EbersdorfDriven by soldiers with red-bordered
black epaulets; the trucks were empty.

Occupied by three officers.

Artillerie Kaser-
ne, Chemnitz-
EbersdorfDriven by soldiers with red-
bordered black epaulets; the
trucks seemed to be new.

26 July

Infanterie Kaser-
ne on LeninstrasseDriven by soldiers with
red-bordered black epaulets;
some of the trucks were empty.Infanterie Kaser- Apparently driving-school vehicles;
ne on Leninstrasse instructors and trainees wore red-borderedCLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~

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DateLocationRemarks

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black epaulets. (1)

2. On 24 July and 1 August, source determined that the fenced portion of the Fuchsdelle Settlement, Chemnitz-Ebersdorf, which had been reserved for Soviet troops, was occupied by a Soviet advance party of about 50 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets. (1)

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3. On 30 July, the quarters of the engineer unit at the intersection of Limbacherstrasse and Erzbergerstrasse, Chemnitz, seemed to be only partially occupied. Sentries wore black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. [REDACTED]

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driven by soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets and engineer insignia, entered the billeting area on the morning. [REDACTED]

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driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets, was also identified there. [REDACTED] carrying loading crews of soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets and engineer insignia and loaded with furniture, left the quarters for the new Soviet billeting area in Siegmars-Schoenau. (2)

4. A unit of 240 men left the camp in the Zeisig Woods for field training on 31 July. Beginning on 31 July, Eubaerstrasse leading toward the camp and Augustsburgerstrasse as far as Weisser Weg, east of the camp, were blocked to civilian traffic by German Volkspolizei. On 31 July, a new unit of 800 to 1,000 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia arrived at the camp. It could not be determined where the unit had come from. Source observed soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets constructing six low wooden barracks buildings in the camp. Railroadmen stated in mid-July that troop trains were due to arrive from an easterly direction on 29 and 30 July. About 600 troops of the new unit marched toward the Infanterie or Artillerie Kaserne in the afternoon of 31 July, and about 200 troops remained at the camp in the Zeisig Woods. The departing troops were armed with machine guns, light mortars and 3 x 20-mm twin-barreled AA guns. No vehicular traffic was noticed at the camp [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] at Siegmars-Schoenau which was recently declared a military reservation. (4) Sentries with red-bordered black epaulets were observed at the intersection of Zwickauerstrasse and Adolf Weinholdstrasse; sentries with black-bordered red epaulets at the intersection of Zwickauerstrasse and Gausstrasse, formerly Rathausstrasse; and sentries with black-bordered green epaulets in front of the school building at the intersection of Rosmarinstrasse and Galileistrasse, formerly Mittelstrasse. The eastern portion of the billeting area was occupied by troops with black-bordered red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets; the central portion, including the school, by MGB personnel; and the northern portion by Soviet civilians without dependents. The post office in the southern portion housed Volkspolizei and a postal agency. Adjoining the post office to the west there was a building of the Wismut Corporation, the western section of which was being gradually occupied by personnel. [REDACTED] there were 1,200 to 1,500 troops in the military reservation. There were no recruits and the average age was about 26 years. The rate of soldiers with green epaulets arriving was much lower than that of other soldiers. Only new vehicles were observed there. Six trucks were seen towing light AA guns, apparently of 20-mm. Sedans, all with

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four-digit numbers and the prefix letters P and H, were occupied by soldiers of all branches of service. Eight new three-axle armored reconnaissance cars seen north of the post office had a revolving turret on their rear superstructure and mounted a gun of 30-mm to 40-mm and a machine gun. They may have been models BA-10s with 45-mm guns. Their numbers were completely obscured. [REDACTED]

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6. On 31 July, the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, was still occupied to capacity by troops as was previously observed. The barracks buildings were fully lighted in the evening. Sentinels with red-bordered black epaulets. [REDACTED] all of them driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, were identified. (6)

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7. A resident of Leninstrasse stated on 30 July that the tank units from the Infanterie Kaserne would return from the Koenigsbruck troop training grounds in the middle of August. (6)

8. On 30 July, 40 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen walking to the garages of the Nachrichten Kaserne in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf. The noise of heavy tank motors was subsequently heard from the garages. A German living near the installation stated that about 100 soldiers with an undetermined number of tanks were stationed there. There was no vehicular traffic, but source believed it possible that vehicles from the installation moved through the billeting area of the neighboring Artillerie Kaserne. (7)

9. On 29 and 30 July and on 1 August, the Artillerie Kaserne in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf was heavily occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including a few with motor transport and artillery insignia. A unit of 200 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets was seen marching out while about 60 soldiers, apparently recruits, including some wearing tank insignia, were observed receiving individual training on 30 July. About 50 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets received drivers' training while 250 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport insignia, were engaged in combat practice at squad and platoon level on 1 August. The owner of a nearby inn claimed to have been told by student drivers that they would be detached as drivers to the Wismut Corporation upon completion of the course. [REDACTED]

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Comments.

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- (1) [REDACTED]
 (2) A report of late June 1951 by another source stated that an engineer unit was quartered there. [REDACTED]
 (3) Reports of July 1951 on the camp in the Zeisig Woods vary. Another source reported that only four 20-man tents and three smaller tents were noticed in the northwestern corner of the camp on 18 July. Source of paragraphs 1 through 4 of the present report previously stated that the camp was occupied on 26 July. Paragraph 4 of the present report indicates that the camp was more heavily occupied than before and that additional low wooden barracks buildings were under construction. The origin of the unit newly arrived there cannot be determined. However, the infantry weapons and AA guns observed with [REDACTED] indicative of a troop unit. [REDACTED]

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(4) For a sketch of the military reservation, see Annex. The boundaries of the billeting area are not clearly indicated, but it is believed that they do not extend beyond the streets north of Zwickauerstrasse.

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(6) The two barracks installations on Leninstrasse are the Infanterie Kaserne to the east and the Artillerie Kaserne to the west. The former quarters component units of the 6th (?) Gds AAA Div and the latter MCB units. The installation referred to in paragraph 6 of the present report is probably the Infanterie Kaserne which seemed to be still occupied on 31 July.

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(7) [redacted] the Nachrichten Kaserne 25X1A on the north side of Albrecht Strasse west of the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by only about 100 soldiers with some tanks on 17 July, but allegedly occupied to capacity on 24 July 1951. The information of 17 July and that of 30 July is concordant and is therefore given more credence.

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(8) The Artillerie Kaserne, east of the Nachrichten Kaserne, was previously [redacted] to have been occupied to capacity in July 1951. Bear units and, possibly, a training unit of the 8th Gds Mecz Div are believed to be located there in addition to units of the Wismut Corporation which maintains the driving school equipped with vehicles having four-digit numbers.

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1 Annex: 1 - sketch on ditto.

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Military Billeting Area in Siegnar-Schoenau



Legend:

- A Northern portion, occupied by Soviet civilians
- B Eastern portion, occupied by Soviet troops with black-bordered red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets.
- C Western portion, occupied after about 31 July 1951
- 1 School building and adjacent houses, occupied by IKB personnel
- 2 Building of the Wismat Corporation
- 3 Post office and buildings, occupied by German Volkspolizei
- 4 Area where eight armored reconnaissance cars were observed
- 5 Area where 16 half-track vehicles were observed
- 6 Area where six trucks towing four light AA guns were observed.

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scale about 1:10,000